

Serial No. 10/751,294

REMARKS

According to Webster's Dictionary, "cylinder" is defined as the surface traced by a straight line moving parallel to a fixed straight line. It is respectfully submitted that a person skilled in the art would not consider balls 145, 149 of Chou to be cylinders. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 3 and 9 as originally filed has been overcome. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 13-22 have been added which further define the cylinders of claims 3 and 9 in a manner to further distinguish over the prior art. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 13-22 are allowable for the same and similar reasons as set forth for claims 3 and 9. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 6, 7, 10 and 11 have been amended to further define the present invention in a manner to prevent the imaginative reading by the Examiner. Furthermore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate how the collar could be wound (not simply connected) to the balls 145 and 149 of Chou in a manner as recited in claims 6, 7, 10 and 11 as originally filed. It is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claims 6, 7, 10 and 11 have been overcome for these separate and independent reasons. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 17 and 22 further define the pivotal relationship between the male and female members which clearly is not suggested by Chou. It is respectfully submitted that claims 17 and 22 are in condition for allowance for these separate and independent reasons. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

For the sake of completeness even though rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 were not advanced, there is nothing in the prior art that would indicate that the structure of Chou is deficient or that further improvement along the lines of the present invention is possible or even desirable. In particular, the recited construction is believed advantageous in providing a smooth feel in a collar for a pet with better strength while providing safety whenever subject to a sufficiently large force regardless of the direction of the force. There is nothing in Chou that indicates that its structure could be utilized in a collar for a pet or that such advantages are desired or needed in its field. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested for these separate and independent reasons.

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The Examiner has cited the United States Patents listed in Notice of References Cited as B-M. By the lack of application of these references and others like them within the classes or subclasses searched, the Examiner apparently recognizes the clear patentability of the present invention over any of these references.

Therefore, since the claims of the present application have been shown to include limitations directed to the features of applicant's safety device for a collar for a pet which are neither shown, described, taught, nor alluded to in any of the references cited by the Examiner, whether those references are taken singly or in any combination, the Examiner is requested to allow claims 3-7 and 9-22, as amended, of the present application and to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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